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Obama Administration Announces Additional \$16,974,600 for Local Energy Efficiency Improvements in Mississippi

Block Grants to Support Jobs, Cut Energy Bills, and Increase Energy Independence

WASHINGTON – Vice President Joe Biden and Energy Secretary Steven Chu today announced plans to invest \$3.2 billion in energy efficiency and conservation projects in U.S. cities, counties, states, territories, and Native American tribes. This includes \$16,974,600 for state, county and city efforts in Mississippi. A detailed breakdown is below.

Today's announcement builds on an investment of \$89,839,193 in Mississippi weatherization and energy funding announced by the Administration on March 12th and detailed at energy.gov/recovery.

"These investments will save taxpayer dollars and create jobs in communities around the country," said Vice President Biden. "Local leaders will have the flexibility in how they put these resources to work – but we will hold them accountable for making the investments quickly and wisely to spur the local economy and cut energy use."

The Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant program, funded by President Obama's American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, will provide formula grants for projects that reduce total energy use and fossil fuel emissions, and improve energy efficiency.

The funding will support energy audits and energy efficiency retrofits in residential and commercial buildings, the development and implementation of advanced building codes and inspections, and the creation of financial incentive programs for energy efficiency improvements. Other activities eligible for use of grant funds include transportation programs that conserve energy, projects to reduce and capture methane and other greenhouse gas emissions from landfills, renewable energy installations on government buildings, energy efficient traffic signals and street lights, deployment of Combined Heat and Power and district heating and cooling systems, and others.

To ensure accountability, the Department of Energy will provide guidance to and require grant recipients to report on the number of jobs created or retained, energy saved, renewable energy capacity installed, greenhouse gas emissions reduced, and funds leveraged. Funding is based on a formula that accounts for population and energy use.

“The Block Grants are a major investment in energy solutions that will strengthen America’s economy and create jobs at the local level,” said Secretary Chu. “The funding will be used for the cheapest, cleanest and most reliable energy technologies we have – energy efficiency and conservation – which can be deployed immediately. The grants also empower local communities to make strategic investments to meet the nation’s long term clean energy and climate goals.”

Funding for state, city, and county governments in the state includes:

MS	Mississippi Total Sum City, County, and SEO Allocations	All	\$ 16,974,600
MS	Mississippi	State Energy Office	\$ 9,593,500
MS	Biloxi	City	\$ 209,100
MS	Clinton	City	\$ 106,900
MS	Greenville	City	\$ 155,500
MS	Gulfport	City	\$ 666,000
MS	Hattiesburg	City	\$ 536,400
MS	Jackson	City	\$ 1,789,300
MS	Meridian	City	\$ 182,400
MS	Olive Branch	City	\$ 128,200
MS	Southaven	City	\$ 174,200
MS	Tupelo	City	\$ 181,200
MS	DeSoto	County	\$ 297,500
MS	Harrison	County	\$ 262,300
MS	Hinds	County	\$ 188,200
MS	Jackson	County	\$ 549,300
MS	Jones	County	\$ 293,000
MS	Lowndes	County	\$ 256,500
MS	Madison	County	\$ 380,100
MS	Pearl River	County	\$ 234,700
MS	Rankin	County	\$ 577,500
MS	Warren	County	\$ 212,800

More information on the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program is available on http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/wip/block_grants.cfm.

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